

is of unique interest to the ecologically minded. Except taxonomic publications, there has been practically nothing written about this area, so that Dr. Weaver's article is doubly welcome.

In both of the papers many terms sanctioned by Professor Clements in "Plant Succession" are freely used and of course the concept of a plant association as an organism is adhered to, even in such a paper as the one by the senior author which is chiefly descriptive.

N. T.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

JANUARY 9, 1917*

The annual meeting was held in the American Museum of Natural History, Tuesday, January 9, 1917, at 8:15 P.M. President Harper presided. Nineteen persons were present.

The minutes of the meetings held November 29 and December 12 were read and approved.

The chairman of the standing committees for the year presented brief reports. Dr. Barnhart for the finance committee; Mrs. Britton for the program committee; Percy Wilson, field committee; Dr. Britton, local flora; Mrs. Britton, Cryptogams. These reports were accepted with approval.

The reports of the officers of the Club were then presented. President Harper spoke of the growing condition of the Club and urged increased activity on the part of the younger members especially.

The secretary's report was read and accepted.

The report of the treasurer was referred to an auditing committee consisting of Dr. J. H. Barnhart and Dr. M. A. Howe.

The report of the editor, Dr. A. W. Evans, was read by the secretary and ordered placed on file.

Dr. J. H. Barnhart, delegate to the Council of the New York Academy of Sciences, submitted a report, which was accepted.

Under the head of new business the question relating to the financial condition of the Club as indicated by the treasurer's report was considered.

* Should have been printed in *TORREYA* for April, 1917.

Dr. Britton submitted the following propositions which were adopted:

1. Each member to be invited to nominate at least one person for membership.

2. The list of sustaining members to be increased by invitation. The finance committee to determine the necessary steps to be taken in this regard.

3. To inform the board of editors that the Club cannot pay, under the present conditions, for the publication for the *Bulletin* of more than 575 pages and 25 plates per volume and 250 pages with a corresponding reduction for illustrations for TORREYA.

The election of officers resulted as follows:

President—Herbert M. Richards.

Vice-Presidents—John H. Barnhart,
C. Stuart Gager.

Secretary-Treasurer—Bernard O. Dodge.

Editor—Alexander W. Evans.

Associate Editors—Jean Broadhurst,
J. Arthur Harris,
Marshall A. Howe,
Michael Levine,
Arlow B. Stout,
William G. Marquette,
Norman Taylor.

Delegate to the Council of the New York Academy of Sciences—Marshall A. Howe.

Meeting adjourned.

B. O. DODGE,
Secretary

NOVEMBER 28, 1917

The meeting was held in the morphological laboratory of the New York Botanical Garden at 3:30 P.M. Vice-President Barnhart presided. There were 12 persons present. The minutes of the meeting held November 13 were read and approved.

Mrs. Britton reported that the program committee had ar-

ranged for a symposium on vacant lot and school gardens to be held December 11. The request that the program committee call the meeting at 8:00 P.M. instead of 8:15 P.M. was granted.

A motion to omit the Wednesday afternoon meeting in December was carried.

Mr. Abram Schulz, 666 Flatbush Ave., Brooklyn, was elected to membership. The resignation of Miss Edna Adams was read and accepted.

Dr. Marshall A. Howe, who acted as secretary at the semi-centennial meetings, read the minutes of the meetings held October 18, 19 and 20. Dr. Britton reported that the Semi-Centennial Fund now amounted to about \$2,100.

The first number on the scientific program was a paper on "Notes on a Carrier of the Mosaic Disease," by Mr. M. Nishimura. This paper will be published in full in the BULLETIN.

Dr. F. J. Seaver was not able to be present. He had consented to exhibit a specimen of a rare cup fungus.

Dr. A. B. Stout then read a paper on "Axial Proliferation in the Flowers of *Hibiscus*." An abstract prepared by the speaker follows.

The most complex "growth observed consisted of numerous branches bearing green leaves and well-developed flowers all very closely compacted and enclosed in a space between the cells of the fruit. The most simple proliferation observed consisted of a small rudimentary and solitary carpel of a pistil.

"These proliferations have been numerous for nearly all plants of *Hibiscus oculiroseus* which have been grown at the New York Botanical Garden. The number of pods with proliferations varies greatly among different plants and also for the same plant in different years. The greater proportion of proliferations develops in the first flowers that bloom.

"No proliferations have been found in any strains of *Hibiscus militaris* or *H. Moscheutos*, but they occur among the hybrids between the latter and *H. oculiroseus*.

"Numerous specimens and drawings were exhibited."

Dr. P. A. Rydberg and others took part in the discussion of this paper.

Dr. Britton exhibited a number of photographs taken on the island Kadiak, Alaska. These photographs were taken by Prof. W. T. Horne in 1902.

Adjournment followed.

B. O. DODGE,
Secretary

DECEMBER 11, 1917

The meeting was held at the American Museum of Natural History at 8:15 P.M. President Richards presided. There were 40 persons present. There was no business transacted at this meeting.

The scientific program consisted of a Symposium on "Vacant Lot and School Gardens." The first paper was presented by Mr. H. G. Parsons. The subject of his address was "Courses on Gardening at the New York Botanical Garden."

"In April, 1917, The Garden School was instituted at the New York Botanical Garden, Bronx Park, New York City, with the primary intention of giving instruction to persons who desire to conduct school gardens and home gardens. A garden was laid out in a charming spot adjacent to the Mansion, where the lecture and classrooms are, and the two are connected by a short woodland path overhung by dogwoods and bordered by native wild-flowers. The garden is on the shore of a beautiful woodland lake, and the classrooms look down upon the historic Bronx River, near the Falls and the old Snuff Mill. Instruction for school-garden training was given in courses of six weeks daily for three hours, with lecture, shop, and garden periods, and a certificate was given for the successful completion of the work. Instruction for home gardens was more elastic, the effort being made to meet the needs of earnest students with limited spare time. For these there have been lectures and garden practice, usually in weekly sessions. The Saturday morning classes being favored by teachers. During the winter the greenhouses are used for instruction. One of the special features is a small home garden (an hour-a-day garden) on which was grown an assortment of vegetables for a family of four, with a gross money value of \$50. What we desire to do is to guide beginners along lines of

instruction which will enable them to find in their gardens rest and recreation for mind and body; food for the soul as well as for the palate; a source of inspiration that will make us all philosophers, artists and poets and increase our capacity to enjoy the delights of the world we live in.

"The lecture was illustrated by lantern-slides showing garden activities and students at work."

Miss Jean A. Cross read a paper on "What the Brooklyn Botanic Garden is doing for Brooklyn." An abstract of this paper follows.

"At the Brooklyn Botanic Garden the work in elementary instruction is in three divisions, viz., children's class work, coöperation with schools, and instruction for garden teachers.

Children's Class Work.—During the outdoor growing season 290 children had plots 8 x 10 feet. The crop for two days, when records were kept, averaged \$173.52. There were 60 plots 10 x 20 feet for older children and teachers, besides 16 plots 20 x 40 feet. During the winter and early spring we have greenhouse classes; at present 130 children are enrolled. Fifty of these are high-school students.

Coöperation with Schools.—Early in the spring 115,847 penny packets of seeds were sold to school children, representing a steady increase from 25,000 packets in 1914. Home visiting was done in various sections of the city. In September our fourth annual children's horticultural exhibit was held, the children bringing in produce from their home gardens. Student teachers from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden supervised these school gardens.

"During six weeks in the spring and fall, 155 classes from schools visited the garden in school hours for a lecture, observation in the economic house, and a visit to the Japanese Garden. Gary schools and high schools send classes weekly for greenhouse work. Eighty-three lectures were also given by members of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden staff at schools. The attendance was 27,605.

Instruction for Teachers.—Theory and practical work in the greenhouse and children's garden. A year's course is offered, also a condensed six weeks' summer course. Certificates in

Children's Gardening are conferred upon the satisfactory completion of this course. Twenty-two certificates were conferred in December, 1917."

The next paper was read by Miss Hester M. Rusk, the subject of her address being "The Woman's Agricultural Camp at Bedford, N. Y." Miss Rusk gave an account of her experience as a farm laborer at this camp. Among the topics discussed were: the nature of the work done by the woman laborer, the system of employment, the attitude of the employers, the attitude of the people of the community, the attitude of the other employees, the general effect on the health of the women employed. Discussion of the paper followed. Miss Delia Marble spoke in high praise of the character of the work done by these women, stating that the employers as a whole looked upon the enterprise with considerable favor.

Mr. Carl Bannwart followed with a paper on "Vacant Lot Gardening in Newark, N. J." His lecture was illustrated with charts showing the number of acres of vacant land within the city suitable for gardening and the number of acres actually under cultivation in 1915, 1916 and 1917. There were approximately 550 acres of land suitable for gardening, of which 10 acres were cultivated in 1915, 22 acres in 1916, and 193 acres in 1917. The produced crop values were \$4,200 in 1915, \$10,600 in 1916, and \$144,572.88 in 1917. The diagrams shown and summary of the facts presented in this lecture were published in the Newark Evening News, Wednesday, December 12, 1917.

A general discussion of the papers given during the evening followed.

Meeting adjourned.

B. O. DODGE,
Secretary